

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, The economic vitality of South Dakota depends on more skilled workers with a wide range of credentials for meeting the workforce needs of the state; and,

Whereas, Closing the skills gap will aid in securing a more prosperous future for all South Dakotans; and,

Whereas, Many students need additional support to meet the expectations of a highly technical and evolving economy that requires adequate preparation for college or career training; and,

Whereas, An increasing number of South Dakota high school students would benefit from pursuing postsecondary opportunities in the state after successfully completing their high school education; and,

Whereas, Such support should focus on reducing the socioeconomic, ethnic and racial achievement and attainment gaps in elementary and secondary schools, and increasing postsecondary credential and degrees; and,

Whereas, Many adults would benefit from additional education or training, including workers with some college credit who want to complete their college degree or another workforce credential; and,

Whereas, Many employers throughout South Dakota have difficulty hiring enough skilled workers, and South Dakota would benefit from better alignment of education, workforce, and economic development systems to develop more robust career pathways; and,

Whereas, It is essential that postsecondary institutions at all levels produce the credentials employers need and put more South Dakotans on a path to the middle class and beyond:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of South Dakota, hereby proclaim that South Dakota will be well-served by establishing the goal of 65 percent of South Dakotans aged 25-34 having earned credentials or degrees beyond high school by the year 2025.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Second Day of December in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Sixteen.

Dennis Daugaard
Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Shantel Krebs
Shantel Krebs, Secretary of State